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Wednesday Morning, September 27, 1916.

THE EIGHT-HOUR DAY.

Biggest of the campaign issues because it looms largest in the public mind is the universal eight-hour day for labor. Properly speaking, there is no decided controversy between Democrats and Republicans as to the merits of an eight-hour day when the nature of the employment permits. The issue hinges on the manner in which the representatives of railway employees secured their point, and their attitude during the conferences. It is the Republican accusation that the Government yielded to force; that organized labor proved itself a bully and the Government cowered under threats of a general strike.

Nothing could be further from the truth. Nevertheless, President Wilson is unsparing in his condemnation of the attitude of both employees' representatives and heads of railways. Conciliatory or generous sentiments swayed neither. Neither revealed that they recognized a mutual interest. Commenting on the recent events in Washington, Roger Babson, an economist of repute in this country, says:

"I feel that Congress has passed a temporary measure to relieve present stress. The real problem awaits solution. I feel that labor and capital are entirely missing the point. They both assume that there can be no improvement in methods of manufacture and distribution. They feel that profits are limited to the present figures and that the only way they can get more is to take it out of the other fellow.

"Capital feels that if labor gets more in wages then capital will have less for dividends.

"Labor feels that the only way it can get more is by clipping the wings of capital. Of course, this is absolutely foolish from an economic point of view. The interests of both labor and capital are not competitive and opposite but mutual.

"Capital is absolutely dependent upon labor and statistics show clearly that the profits of capital are greatest when labor is happiest and most efficient. In fact happiness and efficiency are pretty much the same thing. One is impossible without the other.

"Labor is absolutely dependent upon capital. The reason that the American workman gets double the wage of the European workman is not because he works any harder or any longer, but because he has better machinery with which to work. Labor is absolutely wrong in thinking that it can get richer by restricting production. When labor increases its wages there is always a corresponding increase in the cost of living until some new invention comes along and takes up the slack by enabling labor to manufacture the same amount of goods in fewer hours or for less money. In many industries where labor is getting increases, labor is simply pulling itself up by the bootstraps and making no headway at all.

"The only way that labor will have more left on Saturday night, which is the real thing that the workman is interested in, and the only way that capital will be secure in a fair rate of dividend, which is the only thing that a conservative investor is interested in, is by both uniting to increase production.

"I therefore feel strongly that both sides are very shortsighted in fighting over the eight-hour day. Both sides should recognize frankly that the eight-hour day is right and should then co-operate in inventing some way to bring it about.

"I believe that if the representatives of the unions would really get together with a determination of reducing costs and increasing efficiency that the eight-hour day could be brought about with advantage to both stockholder and workman. Moreover, this applies to a great many other lines of industry as well as to the railroads. The trouble is that both sides seem to take the attitude that the position of the other fellow is far from being anything to concern themselves. Nothing can be accomplished this way. Abuse simply reacts in abuse. Neither side can help itself by knocking the other side.

"Capital can save itself only through some plan which will save labor at the same time and labor can help itself likewise only through co-operation with capital.

"The eight-hour day has come to stay—there is no doubt about it. But present methods of both labor and capital are barbaric. Co-operation must be substituted for present strife. Fundamentally there is no difference

between the conflict taking place in some of our cities today and what is happening in Europe. Capital, like the Allies, is trying to hang to all it possesses and labor, like Germany, is trying to wrench something from them.

"As I said in the first place, I feel that President Wilson's original proposition was perhaps the best way out under the circumstances. He advised Congress to recognize the eight-hour day but at the same time to enact the Canadian compulsory investigation plan so as to prevent a recurrence of another holdup. For President Wilson to have taken the side of the railroads might have meant revolution. I feel, however, that for labor to demand as it did, that Congress pass the eight-hour bill without the other legislation was a cowardly and mistaken act.

"No one gains in the end through holdups. There always is a reaction. By its high-handed methods labor will some time lose all that it has temporarily gained. Capital, labor and shippers all have a lesson to learn. It is the lesson of the Golden Rule. It is that no one of the parties can save itself by some plan which will take care of the other parties also."

HEALTHIER EVERY YEAR.

There is ground for deep satisfaction in the census bureau's mortality report for 1915. The death rate for the entire country is the lowest ever recorded. Only 13½ persons died out of every 1,000. That means a decrease in the mortality rate of 16.7 per cent in the last ten years. That is to say, only six persons died last year for every seven that died in 1915. The saving of lives is 170,000 a year.

Nearly every state and section shows a mortality decrease in the decade, though progress is by no means uniform. It is a significant fact that the chief improvement has been made in the big cities. New York has a decrease of 29.9 per cent, Los Angeles 25 per cent, Pittsburgh 23.9 per cent, St. Louis 22.9 per cent, Denver 22.7 per cent, San Francisco 21.7 per cent. The eastern cities in general improved more than the western cities, doubtless because they had more room for improvement.

In so far as the mortality rate is a dependable criterion, the healthiest state in the registration area—which doesn't include all the states—is Washington, where only 8.1 persons died last year out of each 1,000. Next comes Utah with a rate of 9.9, Minnesota and Kansas with 10.1, Wisconsin with 10.8, Colorado with 11.3, Montana with 11.4, Missouri with 12, Kentucky with 12.3, Indiana with 12.7, Ohio with 13 and California with 13.7. It seems strange that California, in spite of her vaunted climate, should have a higher death rate than so many of the older states. Californians will doubtless explain that "it's because so many people from the East come out there to die." New Hampshire makes the least creditable showing, with a rate of 16.1.

The census bureau says, rightly, that the improvement noted in nearly every state and city is due to two things—"The great progress in medicine and sanitation and the widespread awakening of the people throughout the United States." With these influences in full operation, there is every reason to expect just as much progress, or more, in the next decade.

Our death rate is still slightly more than that of Norway, England and Wales and Denmark, and considerably more than that of Australia and New Zealand. But we are steadily moving toward the last-named country's proud record of 8.9 deaths per 1,000. Some day we shall no doubt equal it.

FAMILY BONDS.

The trouble with most families that "can't get along" is simply that they live together too much. Percy Goldthwait Stiles, physiology instructor at Harvard, in a recent book on the conservation of nervous energy, suggests that it's good for every family to break up occasionally. If the members are naturally sympathetic and congenial, the temporary separation makes them enjoy each other all the more. If they are subject to mutual irritation, it is especially desirable for them to take frequent vacations from each other. Discordant atmosphere in the home is a fruitful waster of nervous energy. It often leads to neurasthenia; and one neurasthenic in a home may infect the whole family.

Such difficulties are especially prevalent among families of grown-ups. Children who got along with each other and with their parents well enough in their early years find it harder to live a common life as their personalities develop and divergences of taste and habit become confirmed. Usually they continue living together unless they marry, in spite of discomfort and friction, because they regard common family life as inevitable.

It is really an absurd thing that grown men and women should feel obliged to live in the same house and subject themselves to a constant close and restricted existence regardless of their preferences, merely because they happen to be blood relatives. They will be much better off mentally and physically, says Dr. Stiles, and will no doubt think all the more of each other, if they live apart occasionally, or even permanently. Such procedure seldom weakens the family bond; it strengthens it.

The French Academy of Medicine reports that infantile paralysis is not contagious and not epidemic. Either they have a different kind over there, or else several thousand New York cases are purely imaginary.

The prominence that has been given Frank Hitchcock and Boss Bill Ward, of Westchester County, New York, by the Republican managers should be very soothing to Progressives—eh, what?

Even the Philippines are sharing in our prosperity. The exports from the islands in the year ending June 30 were the largest in their history—\$61,464,000, or \$10,000,000 more than the year before. Most of the trade was with the United States.

**BRITISH OFFICERS
HELD AT NEW YORK**Immigration Men Investigate
Reason for Visit to This
Country.

(By Review Leased Wire.)

NEW YORK, Sept. 26.—Maj. Arthur S. Humphreys and Lieut. Hugh Levick, Jr., British army officers detained at Ellis Island under a recent order from Washington to the immigration officials to hold soldiers of belligerent countries attempting to enter the United States, were taken before a special board of inquiry today and a report of the evidence was sent to Washington. The officers were asked questions to establish that they are still members of the British army and as to their destination, which they said was Canada. Pending a decision on their cases, which was asked for immediately by Immigration Commissioner Howe, they were given the freedom of Ellis Island Major Humphreys is accompanied by his wife, and she is held with him.

Commissioner Howe was shown a dispatch from Washington saying that at the state department and immigration bureau that nothing was known of any order to detain officers or men of belligerent armies arriving in the United States. "We are instructed," said the commissioner, "in a communication directing us in the case of any soldiers of any belligerent country, to ascertain where they are going and the reason they wish entry into the United States, and if it is found that they have not been discharged the matter should be brought to the attention of Washington."

"In these cases the board examined Major Humphreys and Lieut. Levick and found that action upon them should be deferred. Instead of excluding them, we put the matter in suspense and have sent a record of the proceedings before the board to Washington today requesting action on it tomorrow or as early as possible."

Commissioner Howe added that four men were detained last week on the same order, but were admitted on orders from Washington.

**NO WAR SAYS BAKER
(By Review Leased Wire.)**

CLEVELAND, Sept. 26.—"There is not going to be any war with Mexico," said Secretary of War Newton D. Baker, addressing delegates to the convention of the National Association of Commercial Organizations, on "Industrial Preparedness." Mr. Baker's principal message was a plea to heads of industrial organizations for cooperation in industrial preparedness. Of the Mexican situation he said:

"The very day I entered Washington, General Villa entered Columbus and since that time we have had 125,000 militia sworn into the American army, placed under arms along the Rio Grande.

"Now there is not going to be any war. The United States troops are keeping peace merely by being on hand, but this barely microscopic example of what might happen has been a great lesson to the nation."

THEIR FATHER LEADS BRITISH ARMIES

Alexandra and Victoria Haig.

While their father is leading the British troops at the front, these two children, Alexandra and Victoria Haig, daughters of Sir Douglas Haig, British commander-in-chief, are enjoying fishing of a different variety. The angling at Deal, England, often provides a good fight for the hopeful angler, for the fish are not at all eager to be caught.

DISCHARGING THE NURSE

By BRINKERHOFF.

**MISS BJURSTADT AND
ELEANORA SEARS BEATEN**

(By Review Leased Wire.)

BOSTON, Sept. 26.—Miss Molla Bjurstadt, national woman's tennis champion in singles, was eliminated as a competitor in the doubles on the women's open tennis tournament at the Longwood Cricket Club today. Paired with Miss Eleanora Sears, she was defeated by Mrs. A. A. Shurtleff of Boston and Mrs. H. H. Smith of Philadelphia.

**BRAVES FIELD CHOSEN
FOR WORLD SERIES**

BOSTON, Sept. 26.—Arrangements have been made to play the Boston games of the world series if Boston wins the league pennant at Braves field as was done last year. J. J. Lannin, president of the Boston American team announced tonight. Braves Field has a seating capacity of 42,000 persons.

Women

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